

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DUBLIN 00380 221706 Z

73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

RSR-01 /091 W

----- 123702

R 221615 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4512

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL BELFAST

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DUBLIN 0380

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PBOR, EI

SUBJ: BIPARTISAN NI POLICY SURVIVES

BEGIN SUMMARY: AFTER DELAY, EX- PM LYNCH ACCEPTED WHITE PAPER WITH STATEMENT SIMILAR TO THAT OF NEW PM COSGRAVE. DECISION WAS DIFFICULT FOR HIM, AS BRITISH PROPOSALS DO NOT MEET HIS REQUESTS FOR COUNCIL OF IRELAND. GOI IS PRESSING FOR PROMPT MOVES TOWARD COUNCIL OF IRELAND AND ELECTIONS FOR NEW NI ASSEMBLY. END SUMMARY.

1. LATE MARCH 21, AFTER LENGTHY MEETING WITH HIS SHADOW CABINET, LYNCH ISSUED STATEMENT ON WHITE PAPER WHICH WAS SIMILAR IN SUBSTANCE TO COSGRAVE'S OF PREVIOUS DAY. LYNCH CONSIDERED WHITE PAPER A BASIS FOR RECONCILIATION BETWEEN NI COMMUNITIES AND FOR FAIR POWER- SHARING WITHIN NI. HE ALSO WELCOMED PROPOSAL FOR CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS. HE WAS, HOWEVER, " CONCERNED TO SEE THAT THE IRISH DIMENSION WILL BE EXPANDED AND GIVEN FULLER EXPRESSION THROUGH AN EFFECTIVE AND EVOLVING COUNCIL OF IRELAND." HE THOUGHT AGENDA FOR CONFERENCE ON NI ( PARA 112 OF WHITE PAPER) MUST BE " OPEN- ENDED AND WITHOUT PRECONDITIONS." ( LYNCH STATEMENT SEEMS IGNORE BRITISH DECISION THAT NI CONFERENCE SHOULD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DUBLIN 00380 221706 Z

DISCUSS OTHER MEASURES IN ADDITION TO COUNCIL OF IRELAND. ONE VIRTUE OF WHITE PAPER, HOWEVER, IS THAT IT IS FUZZY ENOUGH TO ALLOW SOME VARIATIONS IN INTERPRETATION, THUS HELPING IRISH POLITICIANS OFF THE HOOK).

2. IN GENERAL, ONLY MAJOR PARTY LEADERS IN DUBLIN ARE COMMENTING ON WHITE PAPER, AND INDIVIDUAL DEPUTIES HAVE OBVIOUSLY BEEN ASKED NOT TO MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENTS. MAJOR EXCEPTION HAS BEEN APPEARANCE OF FIONA FITZGERALD ON BRITISH TV, REPLAYED IN DUBLIN. HE WAS HIGHLY EFFECTIVE AND SEEMS LIKELY TO BE SEEN FREQUENTLY IN FUTURE, ESPECIALLY SINCE HE ADHERED FAITHFULLY TO COSGRAVE'S LINE. FITZGERALD EXPLAINED THAT WHITE PAPER "DOES NOT CONTAIN ANYTHING THAT WE ARE AGAINST, BUT THERE ARE CERTAIN OMISSIONS FROM IT THAT WE WOULD BE CONCERNED TO FILL IN IN THE MONTHS AHEAD." HE ALSO URGED THAT ELECTIONS FOR NEW NI ASSEMBLY BE HELD VERY SOON, NOT DELAYED FOR MONTHS.

3. FONOFF SOURCE TOLD US THAT GOI WILL CONTINUE WORK VERY HARD FOR AN EFFECTIVE COUNCIL OF IRELAND AND SEES SOME HOPE OF OBTAINING ONE. HE ADMITTED THAT THIS WAS OPTIMISTIC READING OF WHITE PAPER, BUT FELT THAT GOI HAD LITTLE CHOICE AT PRESENT BUT TO TAKE OPTIMISTIC VIEW. AS FITZGERALD INDICATED, GOI WILL ALSO PRESS FOR PROMPT ELECTIONS FOR NEW NI ASSEMBLY. SOURCE EXPLAINED THAT THIS POLICY HAS TWO MOTIVATIONS: FIRST, TO KEEP INITIATIVE WITH NI POLITICIANS RATHER THAN MEN OF VIOLENCE; AND SECOND, TO AID MOVEMENT TOWARD COUNCIL OF IRELAND. WHITE PAPER ENVISAGES IMPORTANT ASSEMBLY ROLE IN CONSULTATIONS FOR COUNCIL OF IRELAND, SO IT IS NOT POSSIBLE MAKE ANY PROGRESS UNTIL THERE IS AN ASSEMBLY.

4. COMMENT: LYNCH'S REACTION TO WHITE PAPER COMES AS A RELIEF. DECISION WAS CLEARLY DIFFICULT FOR HIM, AND ONE SOURCE WHO HAS WORKED CLOSELY WITH HIM ON NI PROBLEMS THOUGHT THAT EX-PM MIGHT COME DOWN AGAINST PORTION OF WHITE PAPER DEALING WITH SHRUNKEN IRISH DIMENSION. IN ORDER ACCEPT WHITE PAPER, LYNCH HAD, IN EFFECT, TO SWALLOW PUBLIC COMMITMENT HE HAD MADE TO DEMAND EFFECTIVE COUNCIL OF IRELAND. THIS WAS ONE OF FEW CLEAR POSITIONS ON NI MATTERS EVER TAKEN BY LYNCH, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 DUBLIN 00380 221706 Z

AND THE EXPERIENCE MAY NOT ENCOURAGE HIM TO OPT FOR

CLARITY AGAIN IN NEAR FUTURE. HAD HE FAILED ACCEPT  
WHITE PAPER, DUBLIN' S BIPARTISAN NI POLICY WOULD HAVE  
BEEN STILLBORN, AND MUCH TROUBLE WOULD HAVE BEEN IN  
PROSPECT FOR NEW GOI. BOTH MAJOR PARTIES HERE HAVE  
NOW GONE ALONG WITH NEED TO ACHIEVE RECONCILIATION  
BETWEEN NI COMMUNITIES BEFORE PRESSING FOR ALL- IRELAND  
DIMENSION.  
MOORE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973DUBLIN00380  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** DUBLIN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730334/aaaaicln.tel  
**Line Count:** 127  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 JUL 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26-Jul-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <23-Aug-2001 by boyleja>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> srp 971217  
**Subject:** BIPARTISAN NI POLICY SURVIVES  
**TAGS:** PBOR, EI  
**To:** EUR  
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO BELFAST  
LONDON  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005